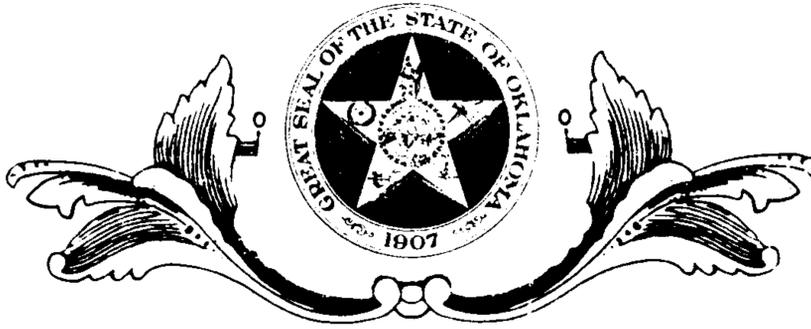


STATE OF OKLAHOMA

FILED

JAN 23 2013

OKLAHOMA SECRETARY
OF STATE



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

Whereas, Black History Month was initiated by Carter G. Woodson as Black History Week in America in February 1926; and

Whereas, Black History Month was initiated in 2006 by Loretta Y. Jackson, making the month of February the official month of celebration in Oklahoma; and

Whereas, on January 20, 2009, Barack Obama took the oath of office to become the 44th President of the United States and is the first African American President; and

Whereas, 2010 marked the 100th year for the existing Verden Separate One Room Schoolhouse in Chickasha; and

Whereas, on October 18, 2010, the Verden Separate School was designated as an "Historic Site" by the Chickasha City Council – the first such designation in Chickasha's history; and

Whereas, February 16, 2013 marks the Loretta Y. Jackson African-American Historical Society's fourth year in partnership with the Oklahoma Tourism and Recreation Department's initiative: The African American Story in Oklahoma; and

Whereas, the valued heritage of African Americans has been recognized through Black History observances in Oklahoma and across America each year in February during the last 87 years; and

Whereas, Black History Month will continue to emphasize, to all Oklahomans and the nation, the significant contributions made by African Americans to the progress of our great state; and

Whereas, the study of African Americans in Oklahoma and the nation will serve to bring about an understanding that promotes the harmony and respect needed to make our state the best in the nation;

Now, therefore, I, Mary Fallin, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2013 as

"Black History Month"

in the State of Oklahoma.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.



ATTEST:

Assistant SECRETARY OF STATE

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this 22nd day of January, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and thirteen, and of the State of Oklahoma in the one hundred and fifth year.

Michelle R. Day

Mary Fallin

GOVERNOR

39109